



THE CALLER



Vol. 8 Issue 01-2 Week of January 13, 2008

A weekly newsletter of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Lancaster, Texas



MELISSA'S MEMO



I hope that those of you who were here to listen to Rev. Larry Ross –found his information to be as helpful to our church as I did. Rev. Ross made several recommendations. One of his recommendations is that we need to develop a mission statement that the whole church participates in developing. Our mission statement should point to our vision for our church. I think that this is really important for our church to develop this as soon as possible. As I have mentioned several times in my sermons, a vision gives people something to unite behind and also acts as a road map— helping direct where we go.

The meeting was recorded, so if you were not able to come, you may request a CD to be able to hear the discussion. As Rev. Ross said, we have to decide as a church whether we are going to choose- *Hospice* or *Hope*. *Hospice* means that we would choose to exist as a family and that we want to stay together until we are all dead. *Hospice* means that this church would die a graceful death.

If we choose *hope*, we have to be willing to change RADICALLY. It would mean that we have to have a clearly defined mission and vision. Choosing *hope* would mean that we would need to have a clear vision for our church and robust lay commitment and involvement. So- we have some decisions to make, and some work to do.

This Saturday, the North Texas Area is having their Leadership Event at Central Christian Church in Dallas. Pre-registration was due on Monday, January 14, 2008; however, I am sure that you could still go and attend as long as you understand that they might not have enough food available for you to eat lunch there. The cost for this event is \$15.00. There are a lot of excellent workshops going on at this event. If you are interested in going, the North Texas Area website has the list of the workshops available and their time: <http://www.ntaccsw.org/AreaNews.html>.

Please continue to hold our church in your prayers as we contemplate where God is bidding us to come. Also, please hold those who are in need of healing in your prayers: Ab, Anna, Bob, Larry, Margaret, Nancy, and Steve.

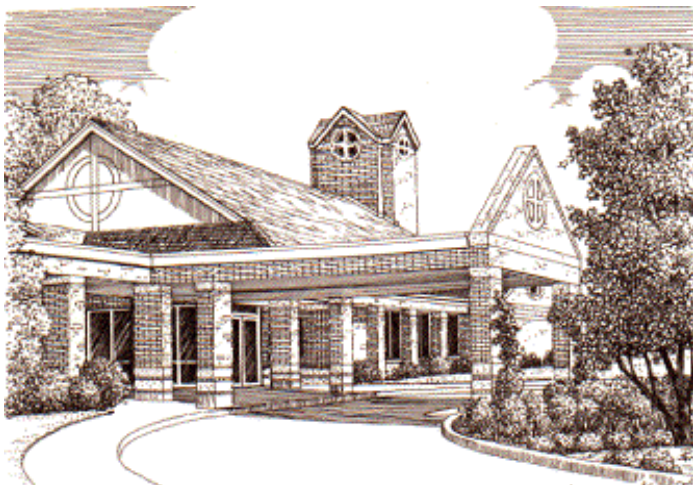
It is my privilege to be-
Your Minister –

Melissa +

1/17/08 - 7:00 pm Meeting @ FCC Duncanville regarding the drug ' Cheese'. Every Parent & Grandparent needs to be aware of this new deadly drug. Please be sure to attend.

1/26/08 - CMF/CWF Meetings. Hope to see you there!!

1/27/08 - 11:30 am - Board Meeting immediately after worship service.



The First Christian Church of Lancaster, Texas (Disciples of Christ)

750 West Main Street, Lancaster, Texas
75146

Minister - Reverend Melissa Bitting
Sunday Schedule of Services
Worship Service 10:00 am

Office - 972.227.2474 || Fax - 972.227.0623
|| www.fccltx.org
Church Office e-mail address - fccltx@airmail.net



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Wednesday, January 16th-**
(Admin Office Closed)
7:30 pm - Choir practice
- Thursday, January 17th -**
(Admin Office Closed)
7:00 pm - Meeting @ FCC Duncanville
- Friday, January 18th -**
(open Schedule)
- Saturday, January 19th -**
(Open Schedule)
- Sunday, January 20th-**
9:45 am - All Elders & Diaconate Prayer in Chapel
10:00 am - Worship service
10:15 am - Kid's Sunday School
- Monday, January 21st-**
(Open schedule)
- Tuesday, January 22nd-**
(Open Schedule)
- Wednesday, January 23rd-**
(Admin Office Closed)
7:30 pm - Choir practice
- Thursday, January 24th -**
(Admin Office Closed)
(Open Schedule)
- Friday, January 25th -**
(open Schedule)
- Saturday, January 26th -**
7:30 am - CMF Meeting
9:00 am - CWF Meeting/Guest Speaker

Let's Do Lunch!!!!

We will be going out to lunch on Sunday, February 10. Dickey's Bar-B-Q Restaurant has a \$4.99 special on Sunday's. Dickey's is located at the intersection of Pleasant Run and Hwy 35. We will go immediately after Church service.



2008 Summer Camp Dates now Available!!

I now have the Tri-Area Summer Camp Dates available in the Church Office. Inquire now as you don't want to miss out on the fun!! Call the Church office at 972-227-2474.

Early Bird Deadline is April 14, 2008



CWF HEART-TO-HEART



Disciples Women's Ministries / Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF)

Mattie Crockett, President

Well, the holidays are over and we need to start thinking about upcoming projects. We will be having a guest speaker at this month's meeting, so please be sure to attend. More info on page 4 of this Caller..

**The meeting for this month will be Saturday January 26 @
9:00 am
Hope to see you there!!**

Thank you to all that are helping paint the Bereavement Boxes!!

CWF/Disciples Women's Ministries is open to all ladies of the Church

WHAT'S COOKING IN CMF

First Christian Church of Lancaster Disciples Men (CMF)



Dan Odom, President

Men, this is YOUR organization. Please be sure to attend our monthly meetings. January's meeting will be Saturday the 26th. Be sure to be here early if you are going to help cook breakfast.

CMF/Disciples Men is open to all men of the Church

Homebound Elders will meet in the Treasurer's office immediately following worship to schedule visitations.

WORSHIP January 20, 2008

At The Table Dan Odom
Joan McShan

In the Pews Bill Bitting
Jean Connell
Nancy Sewell
Chris Able

Homebound Elder Bob Browne
Martha Chambers
Mattie Crockett
Billy Ray Dickey

Worship Leader: Jackie Feil

TEAM January 27, 2008

At The Table Debbie Tarpley
Billy Hugh Mulder

In the Pews Bill Bitting
Jean Connell
Nancy Sewell
Chris Able

Homebound Elder Bob Green
Mary Jane Maykus
James McGinnis
Joan McShan

Worship Leader: Jackie Feil

PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY: is extended to the friends & family of **Vera Richie**, mother of Mark Richie, who entered Gods Heavenly Kingdom on the morning of Sunday, January 13 (Mark Richie is the son- in -law of Linda Ashley); also to the friends & family of **Larry Powell**, who entered the Heavenly Kingdom on Tuesday, January 8 (nephew of Peggy Dickey).

SHUT INS: **Wanda Cutler** (Crescent Place, Cedar Hill); **Helen Honsicker** (Covenant Place, Waxahachie); **Faye Ferguson** (Colonial Village Plano)

JOY: to **Bob Lambert**, who's lung surgery was successful. (Friend of Mattie Crockett)

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS: **Nancy Odom; Martha Chambers; Jennifer & Ashleigh Brown; Jean Connell; Anna Robinson; Bud Scott; Ab & Annie Sealy; Les & Mary Hoxworth; Larry Marlow; Anna Robinson; Ann & Larry Lewis; Robert & Sheila Koster; Ann Hodges; Mary Fitzhugh; Bob Bell; Mary Jane Maykus; Shirley Oliver; Truett McLaughlin**

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CONCERNS: **Chad Cheshier** (Friend to many); **Jerry Dyer** (Friend to many); **Bud Scott** (Son of Jim Scott); **Robert Sanders** (Cousin of Chris Able); **Mark Connell Jr.** (Jean Connell's grandson); **Jana Robinson** (Niece of Anna Robinson); **Steve Burkhart** (Son of Opal Allen); **James Wood** (nephew of Pam Beightol); **Tom Trull** (Nephew of Mary Jane Maykus); **Mark Connell Sr.** (Jean Connell's Son); **Scott Beightol** (son of Jim & Pam Beightol); **Jimmy Hickey** (Diane Hickey's husband); **Julie Daehnert** (friend of many); **Ed & Jane Bolton** (Martha Chamber's father & mother)

1/13/08 **Margie Robinson** (Niece of Anna Robinson); **Mildred Smith** (Great-Aunt of Chris & Marcy Able); 1/11/08 **Margaret Edmister** (friend of Marcy Able); **Charlie & Tammy Able** (Aunt & Uncle of Chris Able); **Christopher "C.J." Bradley** (Great-Grandson of Jerry & Patty Peck); **Diana Griffin** (Daughter of Sheila Griffin); **John Fowler** (Nephew of Nancy Odom & Jean Connell); 12/9/07 **C.C Fields** (Friend of Billy Ray & Peggy Dickey); **Bob Lambert** (Friend of Mattie Crockett); **Leonard & Connie Hollie** (Friend of Debbie Tarpley)

ARMED FORCES

12/30/07 - **Lt. Colonel Bob Thornton**, USA, deployed to Iraq in January (Cousin of Marion Ripley/ son of Bobby & Nancy Edwards)

9/2/07- **Becky Hundt**, USA, deployed to Iraq (Sister-in-law of Robin Hundt)

7/22/07 - **Brandon Sewell**, USA, deployed to Iraq (Grandson of Nancy Sewell)

04/30/06 - **Stephen Miller**, USA, serving in Qatar (Mattie Crockett's grandson)

(01/14/08)

additional news...

The proceeds generated at our Soup & Chili Cook off went to the North Texas Food Bank for Souper Bowl Sunday. To find out more about the Souper Bowl of caring, please check out www.SouperBowl.org.

Please bring a canned good up here to donate. I will be collecting them through Sunday, February 3.

Thank you,

Peggy Dickey

Note: For an addition, correction or deletion to our prayer list; please fill out a Prayer Request form, or call the church office at 972-227-2474.



REACHING OUT

THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST WORD News from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest and North Texas Area of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



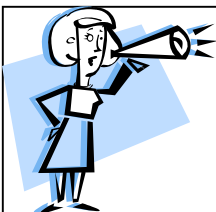
DISCIPLES SCHOLAR AND HISTORIAN LESTER G. McALLISTER DIES

Lester G. McAllister, who served the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) locally, nationally and internationally throughout his lifetime, passed away on Friday, Jan. 4 in Claremont, Calif. He was 88 years old.

McAllister received degrees from Transylvania University and the College of the Bible, which is now Lexington Theological Seminary. An Arkansas native, he was ordained at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), in Little Rock, Ark., in 1944. Throughout his life, McAllister was active in scholarly circles and societies, denominational boards and ecumenical efforts with both the National and World Councils of Churches. In the early 1950s, he received his Ph.D. from Pacific School of Religion, and later served at Bethany College as a professor of Church History, dean and provost. He was Professor of Modern Church History at Christian Theological Seminary from 1961-1984 and Distinguished Guest Professor at Brite Divinity School of Texas Christian University. He was a founding member of the Disciples of Christ History Society, and a member of its Board of Trustees until his death. To read more: visit www.discipleshistory.org/about/news/mcallister.htm



Lester G. McAllister



Guest Speaker coming to CWF Saturday, January 26th!!

Chaplain Ella McCarroll, a staff chaplain at Baylor University Medical Center, will be speaking to the CWF regarding her ministry to

families that have given birth or experienced a loss of a child. She will explain the use of the bereavement boxes that the CWF supplies for the Baylor Hospitals.

Ella McCarroll is a chaplain in Women and Children's services at Baylor University Medical Center where she provides pastoral care to families enduring ectopic pregnancies, miscarriage, stillbirth and infant death. She is the coordinator of the To Lose A Child (TLC) Infant Bereavement Program. She received a Bachelor of Science in Business Education from Texas College and a Mater of Science in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Central Arkansas.

McCarroll earned a Master of Arts in Religious Education (M.A.R.E) from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and has achieved 6 units of Clinical Pastoral Education.

Please drop them a line...

Stephen A. Miller
ASG-QA
Attn: Dyncorp
Number 516
APO,AE-09898



Church Members, Friends and Family celebrating their Birthdays.

Scott Chambers Jr.	January 15
Ian Davis	January 15
Les Hoxworth	January 15
Mary Hoxworth	January 15
Ab Sealy	January 17
David Feil	January 18
Jackie Feil	January 18
Anna Robinson	January 20



STEWARDSHIP

Financial Report for the week of January 13, 2008

Total Giving	\$ 7988.30
Missions	\$ 147.00
Fail Trust To Reserve Fund	\$ 5458.00
Budget Giving	\$ 2383.00

CHURCH ATTENDANCE FOR January 13, 2008
Worship Service Attendance - 41 members / 6 visitors
No Children's Sunday School was held today